

# Nixonomics: Words of Wisdom on Year-End Prices

**From WASHINGTON WATCH**  
A restaurant in Colorado features a "Nixon-burger." It is a grilled cheese sandwich. A teacher in rural North Carolina writes he is "quite discouraged" by trying to meet problems of the heavy cuts in funds for education. Columnist Carl Rowan says of Nixon's veto of the minimum wage bill: "How in the name of heaven does the President of the rich US, himself raking in 200,000 bucks a year, with plush pads in California, Florida and elsewhere, tell the Congress that it may not guarantee the

grimiest, sweating workers in the land a piddling \$88 a week?"  
"And to veto even this Scrooge-like minimum with the argument that it is inflationary bespeaks the worst kind of White House contempt for those millions of Americans who need desperately to have friends in the highest councils of government . . . American corporations made a record \$52.6 billion in profits last year. Second quarter after-tax earnings suggest a new record for 1973 in the neighborhood of \$70 billion . . . How long can the country accept or survive

this kind of shameful nonsense?"  
Columnist Sylvia Porter adds: "How dare we ask the very lowest paid workers among us to stand in the first line of defense against an inflation fueled by the buying and borrowing of the affluent? How can we possibly justify asking those already being pinched the hardest to accept an even stiffer pinch 'for the national good?'"  
Sidney Margolius writes in "The Machinist" (Sept. 6, 1973) that "moderate living costs for a retired couple now are approximately \$430 a month . . . Despite successive increases, the typical Social Security payment received by retired people—currently about \$280 for a couple—still falls short of even intermediate living expenses in retirement . . . Because of the large share of a retirement budget that food takes, this year's runaway food prices have hit seniors especially hard. Food now consumes about twenty-eight percent of the moderate or intermediate budget . . ."

introduce controls in August 1971.  
"The controls could have been tougher and administered a little more effectively, but nevertheless they did bring some slowdown in the rate of inflation. Then came the disastrous decision in January to remove Phase I and move to Phase II. This was probably the worst economic mistake that has been made in decades, and it was absolutely stupid and quite clearly wrong at the time. It was a move by people who hate controls and who felt that they just had to unload them."  
"The combination of inflation in farm

and food prices plus industrial commodities, plus the impact of the devaluation on the higher priced imported goods and greater demand for exports from the US have added up to a disastrous 1973.  
"There is a pretty good chance the consumer prices at the end of the year are going to be ten percent higher than the beginning of the year, and possibly more. I think this outfit hates controls so much that they are going to return to a recession as a solution, and again I think it won't work, and we are going to have unemployment and inflation."

## Batt Commentary Planned Reality

Conservation movements for fuel and ecology aspects of our lives have become a day-to-day experience for all Americans. However, few people ever endorse conservation measures with the intent of putting actions where their mouths are.

The TAMU Student Senate approved a resolution Wednesday that stated that it endorsed "the implementation of a program to inform students of what they can do to conserve energy, specifically in their own living areas, and to thereby draw their attention to the need for positive action on this matter."

The resolution, while good in intent, illustrates what most people do: recognize the problem, but fail to present any logical solution or program to help students knowledgeably take part in conservation.

Student Government representatives seldomly reach down to the students and have again showed their refusal to take the issue by the horns and present the Senate with a workable plan.

The resolution recognized the fact that "the administration . . . has already taken steps to alleviate a serious shortage by reducing energy wastes where possible" and the administration can point out definite programs in effect. The Senate and Student Government, supposedly understanding student problems and life, should be the ones to draw up student-related conservation plans—not the administration.

Those sponsoring the measure, Greg Johnson and Greg Smith, have said they don't have definite plans. True, they have indicated that they will work within University policies and contact residence hall representatives for ideas. This is the research that should have been done before taking the matter before the Senate.

Background data pertaining to the energy crisis was presented to senators and students in the Nov. 6 issue of the "Senator" and brief data on administrative measures was also aired. The only student-related material indicated that if residence halls were drastically affected by the energy shortage, the campus would shut down. This is nothing new.

A logical plan would be for Student Government to immediately make clear to students the methods by which they can save energy now in their rooms. For instance, incandescent lights may be turned on and off many times without a significant amount of energy lost in switching the units on. However, fluorescent lights tend to have their lives shortened with increased use. It is recommended that they be replaced before they burn out.

In another example, students could decide to reduce some of the lighting in dorm hallways and trim back the number of burning lights around the north side women's housing area—although not to the detriment of personal safety.

The Student Government should be guiding the student body, not waiting for the student body to guide it. The student body doesn't know all the ways to solve even the simplest of conservation problems, while the Student Government supposedly has people specifically elected to present logical programs for the students to implement.

In the future, resolution sponsors should present plans each senator can present to his constituency. Only then can an informed Senate effectively endorse the implementation of needed energy conservation measures.



NOW, ON WITH THE INVESTIGATION . . .

### Listen Up—

## TAMU Should Note Sex is Reality

Editor:

I suggest that the administration seriously reconsider the proposal made by Elaine Clark of the Family Planning Center in Bryan. Her proposal was to use volunteers and materials at government prices from her HEW program on the campus at least once a month, providing that TAMU supply a doctor and the facilities. This seems more plausible than going to HEW and demanding that students be treated by the facility in Bryan. I agree with Barb Sears that "there is truly a great need for this service." I do not, however, think that the problem can be solved by forcing 3,000 or more people on an already overcrowded clinic in Bryan.

Nearly all the services required to obtain birth control pills are already provided by the University Health Center. With the added help of Clark's clinic, those services not already provided could be provided. These services could be provided at a minimum cost.

In regard to the statement by Dr. John Koldus, "the administration is concerned with the use of birth control pills by single students, not necessarily by married students," I would like to ask Dr. Koldus—Why? Does he feel that

the parents of these 18-23-year-old single students have entrusted the students' morals to him? Does the university really want the responsibility of telling a 20-year-old man that he cannot have sex unless he is married? Or does this protection apply only to 20-year-old women? Doesn't the administration realize that saying no to birth control is not saying no to sex? Whether or not the student receives birth control from the University Health Center is probably not going to stop her/his sex life. What it might do is stop a lot of worrying, possibly a few unwanted and unloved children from being born, and maybe prevent a needless abortion.

Kim Peoples  
★★★

Editor:

Oh, the dilemma of a bicycle rider. Those of us who have classes at widely separated points on campus and have taken to the bike have a real problem.

Should we:  
1. Ride on the sidewalk or across the mall where pedestrian traffic is dense and slow? Invariably someone will step out in front of a bike without realizing it. The resulting swerving, braking, etc., can cause a catastrophe for cyclist or pedestrians or both.  
Or should we:  
2. Ride on the street where vehicle traffic is faster and pedestrians frequently step off the curb without the least notice of cycle traffic. Often times as not, cars ignore bicyclists' rights at intersections and stop signs. An accident involving a car and bike can be easily fatal to the cyclist and at least very damaging.

It is time that bike paths were established on campus. The Campus Planning Committee has plans on tap for the future, but action must be taken for interim paths to meet today's needs, or the pedestrian vs. cyclist vs. automobile battle will continue.  
Bill Crider '76  
★★★

Editor:

I would like to know why the Battalion cannot get a decent person to write the film reviews. I have found that your critic has only liked one film this semester so far. I work at the Campus Theater and I have seen many of these films that she has reported on. I talk to the other people who see them and mostly they say they are good films to see. One

in particular is the movie "Walking Tall." It does have a lot of violence in it, but the plot and theme are very good. I have not seen or believe there has been a film this good since "Gone With the Wind." I do not know how Ms. Jones cannot like this movie. Every person I have talked to has loved it and thought it was fantastic.

Julia Jones also makes a mistake in how she writes the reviews. First she tells the public her opinion, then she tells the whole story. She should put her opinion last and leave out telling people if they should stay at home or go to the movies. A critic should never tell the whole story of a film. Ms. Jones is writing the reviews like I wrote a book report in elementary school. She should learn how to write a critique and follow that form.

I do not know if Ms. Jones is mad at the Campus Theater for not letting her in free anymore. Ms. Jones should expect to have to pay, if she is going to write bad reviews and lose business for the theater. What ever it is, she either needs to learn how to write a film review or be replaced.  
William Reeder Martin '76

Ms. Jones has been removed from that position indefinitely. We'd like to point out that it is not a critic's place to make money for any theater. We will continue the reviews later in a style we deem the most professional.—Ed.  
★★★

Editor:

We asked that The Battalion be sent to us so we could read news of A&M. We look forward to each issue and having read it, disappointedly put it down because each one contains letters of criticism—and articles of controversy. Do you never receive any letters of commendation? I can't believe that you don't!

We opened the October 23 issue to your headline in the "Listen Up" column over the letter from the obvious Texas Tech fan putting down the Aggie Band. That's just too much! To see "Aggie Band Performance Revolting" is more than we can take. The writer did not say the performance was revolting—he said their conduct was. His criticism is not the point because yell practice under the circumstances is traditional and that settles that.  
Karl Jackson '76

### NATIONAL STUDENT LOBBY ANNUAL REFERENDUM

The policy direction of the National Student Lobby is determined by vote of its constituency. Please check the appropriate boxes.

- How important to you and your institution is increased funding for the above student financial aid programs?  
 I feel that increased funding is necessary.  
 I feel that current funding is adequate.  
 I do not have sufficient information on this issue.
- In regard to Phase IV Price Guidelines:  
 I favor Price Guidelines restricting raises in tuition, student fees, room and board costs to 2½ per cent per year.  
 I favor guidelines which exempt education costs from price controls.
- In collective bargaining between faculty and administration on salaries, classroom conditions and university governance:  
 I feel students should participate in collective bargaining in an official capacity.  
 I feel students should not participate in collective bargaining in an official capacity.
- Would you like to see students represented on the Board of Trustees of your institutions?  
 Yes  No  
 Already represented on Board (Explain, please send as much information as possible)
- Should persons be able to register for Federal elections by means of postcard?  
 Yes  No  Don't know
- On sex discrimination, should the Lobby  
 Confine its activities to eliminating sex discrimination in post-secondary education?  
 In addition to education, work on issues such as child care, and Equal Rights Amendment?  
 I do not feel that sex discrimination is a major problem.
- In regard to discount air-fares for youth and senior citizens age groups:  
 I feel that all persons should pay full airfare.  
 I feel that Congress should reinstate standby fares for persons under 22 (provided that regular fares are not affected).  
 In addition to the youth fares I also favor discount fares for senior citizens (provided that regular fares are not affected).
- In regard to Viet Nam era draft evaders and deserters  
 I am opposed to amnesty in any form.  
 I favor amnesty, on condition of some form of national or alternative service.  
 I favor unconditional amnesty.
- In regard to international affairs:  
 I support Congressional restriction of the President's war making powers.  
 I oppose such restrictions.  
 I support U. S. troop reductions in order to cut Defense Department expenditures.  
 I oppose such reductions.  
 I support U. S. legislation to enforce United Nations sanctions to prohibit the importation of Rhodesian products into the U. S.  
 I oppose such legislation.

Students and youth are often referred to as the conscience of America. Through The National Student Lobby, that conscience has a constant and viable presence in the halls of Congress. It can provide the difference between neglect and attention to student interests and concerns. With your help, the Student Lobby can keep its constituency informed on national and local developments and can bring pressure to bear on governmental leaders in behalf of over 25 million college and high school students. Your participation can make the difference.

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    - \$4, to pay for ½ roll of 100 stamps;
    - \$10, to pay for 12 reams of mimeo paper;
    - \$25, to pay for local phone calls for 1 month;
    - \$....., to pay for a lot of good things!!
- Please send information about:
- Washington Internships
  - Student Government Membership
- Return this form to:
- The National Student Lobby  
413 East Capital Street,  
SE/Washington, D.C. 20003

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